

TESTIMONY
BEFORE THE
AGING COMMITTEE
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
MARCH 4, 2014

My name is Jennifer Herz and I am Assistant Counsel for the Connecticut Business & Industry Association (CBIA). CBIA represents approximately 10,000 businesses throughout Connecticut and the vast majority of these are small companies employing less than 50 people.

CBIA urges your **support of HB 5395 An Act Concerning Aging in Place**. CBIA not only supports this bill because it is the right thing to do but it is also cost effective.

Studies have shown that most seniors wish to stay in their homes as long as possible and avoid institutionalized care. This bill will help support seniors in their wishes to remain in their homes and avoid or at least delay institutionalized care. Additionally, home-based care is often more cost effective than institutionalized care. A study by the Connecticut Institute for the 21st Century found that institutionalized care exceeds \$40,000 per year per client.

This bill will help avoid the high cost of institutionalized care while also keeping seniors where they want to be -- a win-win. Thank you for the opportunity to offer CBIA's comments.